

## Our Xmas Story

It was late on Tuesday afternoon. The blizzard was still howling away, the roads were blocked and the telephone lines were down—not a word had got out through from even one of the five faithful Irma Times correspondents—tomorrow was the deadline for the Christmas issue and Ye Local Ed. was feeling very low indeed. Never had news or inspiration been so lacking.

Suddenly there was a knock on the door and there stood a stout elderly gentleman wearing a station wagon coat and dark glasses. He gave us a cheerful greeting and as he came in out of the storm, we noticed that what had at first appeared to be a muffer was really a white beard—then he removed the glasses and coat and we knew it was Santa Claus.

Anyone who has had much to do with a local newspaper has learned never to be surprised at anything or anyone, but we had to admit we were surprised to see Santa.

He told us he always visited Irma in disguise before Dec. 24 because he liked to size up the situation and notice all the chimneys which had been made smaller at the top—see what some and sing Christmas Carol. Sharon Sunday School plan to have their program on Friday evening, December 23.

He said he was especially glad he'd looked things over this year because Rosi McFarland Jr. had blocked up one chimney in his residence altogether. Santa had trouble there last year—got stuck half way down. No, it wasn't the bad doll for Lynne—it was the bone he was bringing for Major which lodged crosswise. This year he'd have to try to pass it sideways but it wouldn't be much trouble now he knew ahead. Any mistake on Christmas Eve always upset him. After he finally got down Rosi's chimney last year, the nearly left P. E. Jones' package of bird seed for Major instead of the bone.

We were just wondering why Santa had called on the Times when he arose to go and said "If you want to put a bit of nonsense about me in the Christmas issue it's OK. No, I don't need any advertising—get too much. In fact I wish folks had let me stay what I really was—a bishop named Nicholas who lived in Europe long ago and loved children the way your friend John Nolan does and gave presents to them on Christ's birthday. I liked that better than reindeer and a red suit and all this 'Ho Ho Ho' business. But as long as the children know it's only pretending, a little bit of make-believe never does any harm." He began to go through the door, then turned with a twinkle in his eye and said, "And where would you and your annual Christmas story be without make-believe." Yes, where indeed!

## In Appreciation

The Ackerman Construction Co. wishes to thank the people of the Village of Irma for their understanding and co-operation in making the best of a calamity. We regret that we are unable to furnish the service this winter that we had all looked forward to so hopefully.

Due to the early and unusual penetration of frost it will not be advisable to utilize any part of the system this winter. If the sewer line becomes plugged and frozen, it will remain so until the end of June and much of the good work already done may be damaged and rendered useless.

We anticipate renewing construction early in the spring. Probably during the latter part of March—weather permitting.

This should put the system in service earlier than if use is made of it now.

Again, many thanks to all those who have been more than kind.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

The Ackerman Construction Co.

## Glen-Coar Gleanings

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Eric Forsberg (nee Betty Mackay) of Gwynne, on the birth of a little daughter, Dec. 7.

We are sorry to report that Mr. and Mrs. Dan Taylor and children have left our community to make their home north of Wainwright. Jackie Taylor is staying with Mr. and Mrs. P. Spring in order to attend school in Irma until Christmas.

Mr. O. Steffensen took in a few days of the FFA Convention in Edmonton last week. Edmonton visitors for a day or more last week were Mr. and Mrs. P. Nilsson, Mrs. O. Likness and Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Pedel.

Mr. S. Nilsson and Erling spent Saturday in Camrose. Mr. and Mrs. R. Erickson and children and Mrs. S. Nilsson motored to Camrose last Sunday evening to attend a special Christmas program at Camrose Lutheran Church.

Sharon Lutheran enjoyed a special treat last Sunday afternoon when Miss Lillian Tidal showed several series of pictures on Madagascar.

Sharon Little League will have their Christmas program next Sunday evening, Dec. 18 at 8 p.m. We hope the weather will be favorable for a large attendance. Everyone is invited to come and sing Christmas Carol.

Sharon Sunday School plan to have their program on Friday evening, December 23.

## Blizzard Wreaks Havoc in Irma

The blizzard finally wore itself out by Tuesday night but snow drifts are everywhere and snowdrifts are everywhere and snowdrifts are everywhere. On Monday at noon all country children were sent home because of the blizzard. One, eventually made the rounds. The unfortunate bus could get no further than the Archie Cook house. Telephone communications were all cut and it was impossible to let the parents of the remaining children know that they were at the Cook home. Mr. Syngman came out from Irma with his car to make an attempt to deliver these fine snow drifts into the car and killed the engine. The snowmobile from the station was called out from Irma and also got stuck. Mr. Jack Taylor came and carried his children part way. Mr. N. Willerton arrived with his tractor and took his children home out of it. In the meantime, Mr. Syngman was still in difficulties and was unable to return home until 10:30 p.m. By this time his face was badly frozen.

## Kinsella News

Who wants an extra special Christmas present? I hear there are some lovely pair Collie pups, 3 female and one male, to be given away at Wilfrid Hughes—3 miles east of Kinsella.

Mr. and Mrs. O. Olsenberg and Pety were visitors to the city last week.

Mrs. P. Long is at present a patient in the Viking hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Beechell visited Mr. and Mrs. O. Smith of Killam last Wednesday.

Mrs. Lyle Penner and daughter of Peace River have arrived to spend the Christmas holidays at the home of Mrs. Penner's parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. Olsenberg. Mr. Penner will join his family here later.

The Kinsella stores have taken on a very festive appearance, suitable for the Yule-tide season and are well stocked with seasonal merchandise.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. W. Saragin on the birth of a daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Massie and Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Massie of Wainwright were Sunday visitors at the Koskiva home.

Dates to Remember—O.O.R.P. Pie and Cake Bingo, December 16.

New Year's Eve Frolic sponsored by the members of Kinsella Legion.

## Christmas in The Churches

**UNITED CHURCH**  
Sunday, December 18  
Christmas Services  
Irma Sunday School White Gift Service 10:30 a.m.  
Worship Service 11:30.  
Special Music: Christmas Service.  
Jarrow Christmas Service at 2:30 p.m.  
Irma OGIT Vesper Service at 8 p.m.  
H. W. Inglis, Minister.

**CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE TABERNACLE**  
Sunday Services  
Sunday School 10:45. There is a class for everyone.  
Worship service 11:45.  
Sermon: The third in a series, "Which church is the true church."  
Tuesday, 8 p.m., prayer service at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. Murry. You will enjoy the bright singing the Bible stories and the happy fellowship. Come and bring a friend.  
The Little Church with the big welcome.

**ST. MARY'S CHURCH NOTES**  
There will be Celebration of Holy Communion in St. Mary's Church on Christmas Day at 11:30 a.m. The offertory at this service will be our Christmas gift to our Rector.

**SHARON LUTHERAN**  
Luther League Christmas Carol Service Dec. 16, 8 p.m.  
Sunday School Christmas Program, Dec. 23, 8 p.m.  
Christmas Worship Service, Dec. 25, 8 p.m.  
L. Knudson, Pastor.

## Jarrow News

Mr. and Mrs. S. Helfrich and Lavonne of Berwyn were recent visitors at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. Orzechowski. Miss Rose Orzechowski of Round Hill has also been a visitor.

Mr. John Archibald Sr. was the lucky winner of the 27 lb. turkey which was drawn for at the Berls school on Dec. 9. Even a dead turkey can cause quite a commotion when it does the disappearing act.

Word has been received of the death of Mrs. Samuel Murray at the coast on Nov. 23, at the age of 91 years. She is survived by one son, Robert, and two daughters, Jessie and Mabel (Mrs. Lockhart). Funeral services were held in the Columbia Funeral Chapel at New Westminster, B.C. The Murray family was one of the early settlers in the Berls district and will be remembered by many. Sympathy is extended to the bereaved family.

The Jarrow W.A. wish to thank all who contributed so generously and patronized their sale of work and tea on Sat., December 10.

Rev. H. W. Inglis will bring the Christmas message on Sunday, December 18 at 2:30 p.m.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Sonoff of Deville had their two sons, Stanley and Kenneth, christened at the Jarrow church on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Pirks visited in the city with Mr. and Mrs. Budzinski during the week. "Budzi" Beer is working at Celling Lake as a cat skinner on a logging project. James Beer who has been assisting Marshall Burns for a few days, is home again.

Visitors to the city during the week were Mr. and Mrs. C. Sonoff, Mrs. W. Orzechowski, Mrs. K. B. Lingley, Mr. and Mrs. G. Meakin and family, Mrs. Ted Skori, Leonard and Norine. Norine returned back to work after having a week's holiday at home.

Betty Lou Beer is visiting at Wainwright, with her friend Opal Lundberg.

Our local milkman, Mr. R. Wynd, also had a strenuous time during the storm and to make matters worse his brother Homer was on the sick list.

## Our Trip to the Old Country

While at Maidstone, we visited a carriage museum housed in a large oak beamed building that had formerly served as stables to the Archbishop's palace. Here were quite a number of old carriages which had belonged to such famous folk as Napoleon III, George III, Queen Victoria and many others. How we would love to have one of those ancient vehicles to drive in the parade down Main St. next Irma Day!

We travelled from Maidstone to Southborough by bus and the busch fees were so lovely that at times we seemed to be travelling in a green leafy tunnel with the branches meeting overhead. There were many places of interest near Southborough and we made excursions to Tonbridge where we entered the castle there and passed by the famous "Chequers Inn." At Tonbridge Wells we drank the waters and walked along the Pan Tiberius. We noticed a floral clock in a tiny park there. We also visited St. Grinwald.

One day, accompanied by a cousin, who is a Windsor enthusiast, we took a bus which passed thru Seven Oaks and by Thade Hall with its 7 courtyards, 52 staircases and 365 rooms, then on past Bromley right across London and west along the Thames we came to Eton College and the town of Windsor where the huge grey castle dominated all the landscape.

The Royal Family were not in evidence so we were able to walk past the big statue of Queen Victoria and in the great gateway. Next we entered St. George's Chapel founded by King Edward IV. It is impossible to give any detailed account of this beautiful place. We were told that the church was all

England. History speaks from every side. Here are the tombs of many English sovereigns. A mighty sword which once belonged to Henry III hangs in the south choir aisle. In the choir there is such a wealth of color and carvings. A fitting setting for the great pageants witnessed through the ages.

From the chapel we went to the huge Norman Tower and commenced the long climb up the winding stone stairs. That staircase seemed to go on forever, but finally, panting, but triumphant we came to the top. The view on every side was glorious.

Next was a tour of the state apartments. Here were suits of armor, ancient weapons, huge paintings, giant tapestries showing the whole story of Queen Esther, old furniture, all infused with Mother of Pearl, Queen Mary's collection of carved jade, great marble fireplaces and huge crystal chandeliers. Suddenly we came on two "old friends." Remember those pictures in the history books of Henry VIII and Catherine Parr? Here you will find them literally "merge as life" and in lovely color as painted by the famous artist Holbein way back in the 16th century.

After we had walked about the grounds and seen the flowers and watched the famous gardeners on duty, we took a half-hour trip up the Thames in a pleasure boat. Here were the Royal swans, swimming serenely among boats of every kind out on the river that that July afternoon. Weeping willows trailed in the water and here and there a lovely house and grounds could be seen along the river bank.

All too soon it was time to catch our bus and take the long return journey to Southborough.

—To be Continued.

## Card of Thanks

I would like to thank all my friends for the lovely cards, letters, flowers and visits I received while in the hospital and since I came home. Your thoughtfulness was very much appreciated.

—Elkie Pond.

## Messages From The Churches

**THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS**

At this season of the year there are many things that are dear to our hearts and form a pattern of activities in our Christmas celebrations. There are the sending of Christmas greetings, the exchange of gifts, the reunion of families and loved ones, the lighted tree, the hung stockings, the roast turkey, the plum pudding, and all that contributes to make our Christmas a traditional festival. In some families this is all that Christmas means, and although these activities have become part of our Canadian way of life, there is a grave danger that they may take precedence over the real significance of Christmas. May I ask you this question, "What does Christmas mean to you?" We should remember that these traditions, though held warmly in our hearts since childhood, are only man-made and should be subject to the real theme of Christmas—in no way overshadowing or clouding the truth that Almighty God would have us know and observe.

**The Primary Meaning of Christmas is Giving**

We give gifts one to another, supposedly following the example set by the Wise Men. Probably it would be more correct to say we receive gifts, for the truth—that "it is more blessed to give than to receive" has been reversed. However, this is not the type of giving to which I am referring. The real meaning of Christmas is found in what God has done for the human race.

## God Gave

The birth of Christmas is found in the beloved verse, John 3:16—"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." It was "in the fulness of time" when, as foretold by the prophets, and fulfilled by the direct creative power of God, working through the Holy Spirit, the blessed virgin, Mary, became the mother of our Lord. The Babe of Bethlehem was God manifest in the flesh, God, come down to earth, Deity and humanity united in the person of Jesus Christ. He came for a purpose—"to give His life a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45), and as 1 John 4:14 declares, "The Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world." He came "to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10). He came to die for my sins and for your sins—"the Just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God." Apart from Calvary, Bethlehem would have no lasting significance. The Saviour born in David's city had to die in order to provide redemption for us that, we, by accepting His free Gift of salvation, we might be reconciled to God. Yes, God gave—God gave His all that we are sinners by nature, and sinners by choice, might repent of our sin and by faith receive Christ as our own personal Saviour, and thereby experience forgiveness of sin, and enter into life, real life, by being born again. This birth is the spiritual birth, the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives whereby the truth, "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature" becomes a reality.

**Have You Given?**

At this season you will be giving gifts to your friends. Why not find out the real meaning of Christmas by giving your life into God's hands? "How can they say they are sinners when they are not? They are sinners because they are sinners by nature, and sinners by choice, might repent of our sin and by faith receive Christ as our own personal Saviour, and thereby experience forgiveness of sin, and enter into life, real life, by being born again. This birth is the spiritual birth, the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives whereby the truth, "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature" becomes a reality.

**Bible says, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."**

Have you given yourself—body, soul and spirit to God? If not, why not do it now, and then you will know the real meaning of Christmas.

L. D. SHEARDOWN,  
The Alliance Church,  
Irma, Alberta.

## CHRISTMAS MESSAGE 1955

**Matt 2:**

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem, Out of the heart of God there came

To a dark, despairing world, The gift of a life of light and hope

And the banner of love unfurled

Into the heart of man there came

As he went his weary way, A song of cheer and a gift of love,

All on a Christmas Day.

It is for those who know the joy Of the gift of God's great heart, To share with the world that knows it not, The bliss it doth impart.

To spread good-will and kindness

Along life's tollsome way, And make the heart of man rejoice,

All on a Christmas Day.

—Robert B. Beattie.

Bethlehem speaks to us of God's promise fulfilled. We know how this world of ours can be disappointing and frustrating but Christmas reminds us that this is also the world to which Jesus came; and in which the Angels sang "Glory to God in the Highest and on Earth Peace and Good-will toward Men." Thus, in spite of economic worries and international unrest, we rejoice in God's gift of His Son and are comforted by the Christmas Message.

May we remember that Christmas commemorates the birth of the Christ Child and rejoice, but in our rejoicing may we remember why we rejoice and always carry the banner of Christ high.

One of our most cherished observations is that we do not hold Christ in as high esteem as we ought. Let us remember this year that it is God's greatest gift to mankind that we commemorate; that the word became flesh and dwelt among us; That God entered the world in human form and became active in the affairs of men; That Jesus is the way, the truth and the life.

We rejoice, because of what God has done in the world thru Jesus Christ. "The blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them." Like heaven, the kingdom of God works in the world and God is over all.

Our Calendar goes back to the birth of Christ and our New Year follows close upon Christmas. As Christmas brings Joy and Love and Hope to you all, so may your New Year be filled with Happiness, Prosperity and Service to your God.

Sincerely,  
REV. H. W. INGLIS.

## IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Glasgow who passed away December 17, 1953.

"Time takes away the edge of grief,

But memory turns back every leaf;

A loving thought, a silent tear, A beautiful memory of you, mother dear.

Loving and kind in all his ways, Upright and just to the end of his days,

Sincere and true in his heart and mind, Beautiful memories he left behind.

—The Glasgows.

Bible says, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Have you given yourself—body, soul and spirit to God? If not, why not do it now, and then you will know the real meaning of Christmas.

L. D. SHEARDOWN,  
The Alliance Church,  
Irma, Alberta.



## - Notice -

To RENTERS and NON-RATEPAYERS in the IRMA MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT No. 55

Renters of farm land, who give the owner a share of crop as rental, may obtain hospitalization at the same price as ratepayers, providing they present a certificate, signed by the Owner, to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Hospital District, releasing all hospital benefits (pertaining to the land in question) to the Renter. CERTIFICATES MUST BE RENEWED YEARLY. Before the certificate is deemed valid the Renter must show the lease for the land, to the Secretary-Treasurer.

Non-Ratepayers purchasing tickets during the month of January are eligible for immediate benefits.

If purchased at any other time of the year, there will be a sixty day waiting period.

Cost of such tickets will be \$10.00. This will cover Standard Ward accommodation including extra services.

Classification of Non-Ratepayers who should purchase subscriber tickets:

1. Any male member of the family at home who is twenty-one years of age who does not have property registered in his own name.
2. Any male, other than a student, who is gainfully employed and who is not a property owner.
3. Any female, other than domestic help, or a student, who is gainfully employed and is not a property owner.

Referred or Emergency cases receive the same hospitalization benefits when Physician's Certificates are presented.

\* 16-6-13



Imperial Lumber Co. Ltd.

H. BLACK

Advertising Stimulates Trade



### Christmas Seals Campaign

The response of the public in the annual Christmas Seal Sale is quite encouraging, according to Dr. D. S. Gilmour, chairman of the Edmonton Kinsmen Club TB Christmas Seal Committee,

who reports that returns at the end of the third week of the campaign amount \$53,987, which is a modest increase over the same period in the Seal Sale last year. The objective for Edmonton and Northern Alberta is \$90,000.

## Doggie IN THE Window

By LILLIAN MITCHELL

SANDRA sighed and slipped into her white fur jacket.

Mabel laughed, her brown eyes twinkling at the corners. "Oh, well, maybe it isn't as much fun going out for New Year's Eve with a crowd of girls, Sandra. But, at least, come Monday morning, we shall have something to tell at the office."

"I know, I know," agreed the grey-eyed Sandra. "Only if I'd guessed how very few men there would be here in Emeryton, I'd have chosen to stay in the City where I do know men—from school days. And I'd never in the world have bought this fur jacket on the so-called easy term basis."

Arm in arm they left the boarding house and hurried towards the bus stop where they were to meet two other girls. The air was fresh and icy and Sandra pulled the collar of the white fur jacket closely in the darkness, a small dog crossed the sidewalk, nearly tripping them in the dragging leash.



"Come on," Mabel said. "The girls are waiting that a bus is coming, Sandra."

"That must be the doggy in the window," Mabel laughed. "That doggy must have a good home," Sandra chimed in. "What a coat! The golden fur drags on the sidewalk, for a fact!"

The golden Pekinese looked up at her with enormous eyes and waited. Sandra stopped, looking closely at the collar that stated, "I'm Tang. I live at 432 Euclid Avenue. Please take me home."

Sandra glanced up at the nearby house. "Well, Tang, you are home. Slip up those steps, Pup."

"Come on. The girls are waiting that a bus is coming, Sandra," Mabel said.

"I'll meet you at the corner of State and Broadway. I'm going to ring the bell and tell them that dog is loose," Sandra said. "Oh, the dog will get inside, all right. Come along!"

But Sandra stooped again, scooped the tiny dog into her arms and ran lightly up the grey-toned steps. Her ring brought no one to the door although she could clearly hear the soft chime when she pressed the button. Opening the door that was unlocked, she called gently, "Here's Tang. Anyone at home?"

"Oh, come in, please," answered a silvery voice.

Sandra, still holding little Tang, moved along the hallway to an open doorway where a fireplace glowed, and an elderly woman sat in a wheelchair. "Daddy took him walking, my dear, and Tang must have got away, somehow."

"Ah, well, he couldn't find his way home," Sandra said. "He was right outside your door."

"Yes, but he chases cars. We even had him trained by a professional training school and they really trained him in everything except car-chasing—and with his leash dragging—" she sighed.

"Then the door burst open and a tall, dark-haired young man rushed in. 'Grandma! Tang—why, your little yellow rascal! You—'"

"He's not yellow—he's golden!" interrupted his grandmother. "And I'll wager you took him in that convertible I got you for Christmas—and he jumped out—and this is the blonde girl who lives down at 606 on this same street—goes home every night with the brown haired girl at sixteen minutes after five. My grandson, Denny."

"How do you do," murmured Sandra, edging towards the doorway. "How in the world did you ever guess I lived at 606?"

"The lady who keeps it is a friend of mine, my dear. Me, I get to sit in the front window all the time because I fractured my hip ten years ago."

"Oh," said Sandra. "I am to meet some girls downtown—"

"Now's for me driving you down, the buses will all be jammed at this time—on New Year's Eve—and if your brown-haired girl friend will double-date, I've a classmate home from the hospital—he's an intern where I am this year."

"That'll be nice—and maybe I'll see the four of you on TV when I look on at midnight," said his grandmother. "Don't let me keep you," she urged. She heard the front door click and motioned to the dog to jump into her lap.

"Well, of pup, I never made a better trip down town, believe me, the front door—in double quick time, too. That girl and Denny—they couldn't be right for each other, eh?"

Five times as many Canadians live in towns and cities as live on the farms.

## PEARSON FILLS RUSS PULPIT

OTTAWA — External Affairs Minister Pearson, son of a United Church minister, related here how he preached a short sermon in a Baptist church in Moscow. During his visit to Russia in early October he expressed a desire on a Sunday to attend church. He was taken to a Baptist church filled to overflowing, led in through the back and put in the pulpit with the minister.

The minister told the congregation Mr. Pearson was going to preach to them. Mr. Pearson said he tried to get out of it but that Russian-speaking John Watkins, Canadian Ambassador to Russia, persuaded him to say something.

Mr. Pearson said he took as his lesson "Blessed is the Peacemaker." Because his words had to be translated, he had time to think of what he was going to say next.

## Gift-Giving Custom In Ancient England

One of the most plausible versions of the origin of the custom of giving gifts at Christmas time is the one saying it began in England.

In the days of the knights, it was custom to hang kissing rings to the great halls. These rings were decorated with mistletoe and beneath them would meet the young knights and ladies, each bringing Christmas roses to their secret love.

As times changed, so did customs, and roses gave way for other personal gifts at Christmas time.

## It Can Be Wished In Many Languages

"Happy New Year!" As the year 1959 rolls westward from the Admiralty's date line, these words will ring out in many languages.

Should you be in gay Paris, the greeting you'd hear would be "Bonne Année!" Down in sunny Italy, they say "Buon Capo d'Anno!" which doesn't sound too different. In Spain, it's "Feliz Año Nuevo!"

If you have relatives or friends in Germany, they may write, "Ein Gluckliches Neues Jahr." If so they wish you a Happy New Year. The Swedish and Norse greetings are different from the ones above, although they are almost the same. The Swedes say, "God Nytt Ar," and the Norse "Godi Nytt Ar."

Any way you hear it, though, it seems the same. The three words mean not only Happy New Year, but imply best wishes for all the days ahead.

## Your Christmas Friends Can Be Bright With Color

If you wish to get as much "color" as possible in your Christmas observance, here's a novel idea.

Pine cones, small kindling or chips can be so treated as to give off colored flames when burned in the fireplace. Dipped or soaked in a solution of various salts of certain metals, cones or chips will burn with a distinctive color. Cones will not readily absorb water, so salts must be suspended in a solution of turpentine.

Compounds which produce specific colors when burned are: Red—strontium chloride; green—barium chloride; blue-green—copper chloride or copper sulfate; orange—calcium chloride; lavender—potassium chloride; and yellow—sodium chloride.

A second method—it only comes to be used—is to dip the cone in paraffin and before the paraffin hardens sprinkle with the following chemicals for desired color effect: Green—copper sulfate; red—strontium nitrate; orange—calcium nitrate; and yellow—sodium chloride.

## DANCE & HAM RAFFLE on NEW YEAR'S EVE

Dancing 9 to 12 —

## KINSELLA HALL

Sponsored by Kinsella Legion

● FAVORS

● FREE LUNCH



May the Christmas Spirit glow in your heart and Good Fortune smile brightly upon you through all the days of the New Year.

## Club Cafe

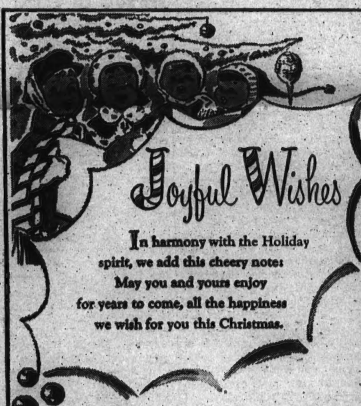
J. POND, Prop.

—Special Christmas Ice Cream Bricks—



May the joys of the Holiday Season come to your home...to stay!

## A. C. Charter



In harmony with the Holiday spirit, we add this cheery note: May you and yours enjoy for years to come, all the happiness we wish for you this Christmas.

## Irma Machine Works

G. HURST, Prop.



May the joys of Christmas enrich your heart throughout the Holiday Season.

## Frank Wyand and Family

### SPECIAL QUOTAS

Alberta farmers will be permitted immediate delivery of a special quota of 1,000 bushels of barley provided it grades 3 C.W. 6 Row, The Canadian Wheat Board has issued instructions to this effect but warns that the

barley must meet the grade requirements.

The quota does not apply to Manitoba or Sask. points but farmers in these provinces will benefit by a supplementary quota on oats, permitting the delivery of 1,000 bushels of Extra No. 1 Feed or higher.





## A MISSIONARY WRITES HOME

"Dear Mom, just think, it's here again—another Christmas night—And once again around the world our hearts with joy unite In adoration for the One who came to make us pure And open wide the gates of Heaven to make our entrance sure. I wonder what you did at home to celebrate the day, Do you still keep up the customs in just the same old way? Do you still hang up the holly and the wreaths and mistletoe—And sit around the fireplace to watch the embers glow?"

Remember, Mom, how I used to crawl beneath the Christmas tree And try to guess for days ahead what gifts were there for me—And then on Christmas morning I'd be up with the sun And sample all the things you'd baked? (I had my share of fun!) ... But now they seem so far away (my childish hopes and fears). It seems I've been on the mission field for years and years and years And somehow things are different here—don't ask me to explain—But the way they think of Christmas will throughout the year remain.

We Christians had a service in the little chapel here, But it seemed we were in Bethlehem for Christ was very near—There were no bells nor tinsel nor snow around the door, But I felt the Christmas Spirit as I never did before. Then we had our Christmas dinner and I missed you much, it's true. But, Mom, we surely all enjoyed the things that came from you. May God reward you for your love and everything you've done To make this day, this Christmas, such a very pleasant one. I trust that you, though far away, felt Christ in His power too, And God, in love, designed and made a blessing just for you.

And now, Mom, I should like to ask if you don't think I'm wrong? About the little church back home—just how does it get along?

Do any more come out to pray than did when I was there Or are there still just one's and two's who seem to really care? Mom, do you think they realize the heathen here are lost And the Christ whose birth they celebrate stopped not to count the cost?

But gave His all that all the world from Satan might be free—Do you think they look at Christmas with a view to eternity? Or do you think they've missed the point of this first Christmas morn.

Forgetting in their lethargy the reason Christ was born?

And, Mother, if you think they have, just join their memory, please, For in a world with thousands lost, there is no time for ease—And if perhaps they tell you I'm becoming too extreme, Just remind them it's not Christmas if we forget the theme."

—MRS. SHEARDOWN.

## LETHBRIDGE MAN FUA PRESIDENT

Arnold W. Platt of Lethbridge was elected president of the Farmers' Union of Alberta on Thursday, at the seventh annual convention, in Alberta College auditorium. He succeeds Henry Young of Millet, who served as president for five years.

Mr. Platt, well known in agricultural circles, was chosen by delegates over three other candidates—Carl Stimpfle, of Egrement, FUA vice-president; Frank Maricle, of Hamilton, and Uri Powell of Sexsmith.

Mr. Platt was born at Innisfree and graduated from the University of Alberta with a bachelor of science degree. He later received his master's degree in science. Following graduation, Mr. Platt joined the Dominion Experimental Farm at Swift Current, Sask. While there he collaborated in the production of Rescue wheat.

Moving to the experimental farm at Lethbridge, he became officer in charge of the cereal breeding laboratory. For the major role he played in producing the sawfly-resistant wheat variety, he was elected a Fellow of the Agricultural Institute of Canada.

Mr. Platt now operates an eight-section farm.

More than \$8,000,000 worth of aluminum cooking utensils is made in Canada annually.

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IRMA TIMES, MRS. H. RILEY, Local Editor, Phone 514

Published every Friday by the Times Publishers, Irma, Alberta. Subscription Rates \$1.50 per year in advance. Authorized as Second Class Mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa.

GORDON STALKER, Auctioneer, Phone 1008, Viking, or see P. E. Jones and Son, Irma, Alta.

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By SHIRLEY SARGENT

ON ACCOUNT of being the oldest in a big family, I've been baby sitting longer than I remember. Since I was twelve—that'd be four years now that I'm with in hining distance of my sixteenth birthday—I've been sitting for other people for pay. I've always welcomed jobs but tonight what I'd welcome is a date—so what happens? Four times I'm called to our wall phone and four times I have to turn people down 'cause I already promised the Laytons. The Laytons are kinda old to have Jennie, four, and Jimmy, six, but they planned it so their first two would be grown-up before they had any more.

Anyway, nobody calls me for a date, not that anyone does very often, so I'm off for an evening of fun and hilarity. Baby sitting. The first babies, and try and sit with those two. For example, Jennie gnaws a fruitcake while I'm helping Jimmy with his train, they have two lights, Jimmy turns on all the lights as fast as I turn them off and finally Jennie turns on the Christmas tree over. It was a big tree with a standard and all, but she catches it with her jump rope.

Quick-like I run in and pull out the plug, thanking my stars that no fire started, then herd them up to bed. Three stories later they're both asleep and I hurry down to wash the dishes.

Tired now, I'm thinking of the good time my friends are having and wondering again why I don't have more dates. The hall mirror shows the same old reflection.



"Oh, please," his face is all eager, "stay, I hate to be alone."

Short broken hair, brown eyes and big mischievous grin, he's the one I don't forget and grin. Soon's I have a little more money, I can afford braces.

Jennie yells and I wake her up, a nightmare, by the time I'm back downstairs, it's nearly ten o'clock and I've still got that darned tree to set up. Like I say, it's a beautiful big tree, ceiling high, loaded with decorations. There I am half under the tree, trying to hold it straight and keep the globes on at the same time, when I hear the front door open. Somebody yells, "Anybody home?"

I'm so startled I let the tree sway, so this voice yells, "Timber!" and a long arm grabs for the trunk.

Looking up between the branches, I see a tall, dark-haired boy, neither handsome nor homely. "Thanks," I'm a little breathless.

"I'm Oliver Layton," he explains, "don't that a heck of a name?"

Pine needles are thick in the air. "Not so awful," I laugh back. "I'm Jennie, the sister. Your folks are out."

"I know. Look here, can't we do something about this tree?" A few minutes later we collapse into chairs, staring at the still-living tree. "Thanks so much. Can I get you something to eat or anything?"

"Say, that'd be keen. Would you?"

Well, of course, I do and, while Oliver eats, he tells me how he's staying at a friend's this vacation but decided to come home and take his girl to a dance. "So I called her and came clear in by bus, but she didn't wait. She went with somebody else. Heck," he grins, "now I'm sorta glad she stood me up."

"I'd better be on my way now that you're here to baby sit," I say reluctantly.

"Oh, please," his face is all eager, "stay, I hate to be all alone."

Back in the living room then, he asks me all about the kids and about me 'till, to hear us talk, you'd think we were old friends. I like the way he talks, slow and quiet, and the way his grin lights up his whole face. He tells me about boarding school and his friends and what he wants to do. Suddenly, he jumps up. "Let's dance. We can roll up the rug."

It turns out we're both such dancers we have to take our shoes off so as not to hurt each other. But we laugh a lot and the radio sounds fine and I fit right into Oliver's arms. At midnight, he drives me lightly on the cheek.

Well, it's the happiest sitter's eve I've ever spent and, from the look in his eyes, I can tell it's going to be a Happy Holiday.



LARGEST MANGER SCENE... Day visitor is dwarfed by manger scene in stone and marble, by sculptor Vincenzetti, in Rome. Each statue is from 5 to 12 feet tall, include the Madonnas and infant; St. Joseph and the three wise kings bearing gifts.

## Feasting Important To World Observance Of New Year

Feasting is as important a part of a New Year celebration as of Thanksgiving, with a good meal on the first day of the year symbolizing that there will be plenty throughout the days ahead.

The New Year's day banquet differs as one travels around the world. An important dish among the Spaniards is sopa, rice cooked with olive oil, tomatoes, vegetables and meat particles. Africans partake of cous-cous, which is composed of wheat grains, lamb and vegetables. Picked greens, raw fish, roast bird and shrimp fritters are menu headlines in Japan, with pickled chrysanthemum petals considered a special delicacy. The Swedes temper their feasts with a special drink called glogg which is a claret wine sweetened with sugar and flavored with almonds, raisins, dried orange peel, cinnamon, cloves and cardamom. It is usually set afire before serving.

Festivals in England and Western Europe are similar to our American ones, chief difference being in the choice of side dishes. Turkey, duck or goose make the popular roast in England and in France. Latin countries bedeck their holiday fowl with truffles, chestnuts and olives and one might find snails on the menu in France.

Our present calendar—the Gregorian—was the first calendar to achieve any semblance of world unity on the time front.

The coming of this calendar, instituted by Pope Gregory in 1582, laid the groundwork for universal celebration of New Year's day. Europe, which for centuries had celebrated March 25 as the first day of the year, was the first to adopt the Gregorian calendar. But it was not a complete adoption until 1752 when Great Britain joined the other European countries reorganizing January 1 as the first day of the year and instituting use of the Gregorian calendar.

Of course, the date of January 1 is not celebrated by everyone. The Jews observe a 10-day New Year season at the time of the autumn equinox. The Moslem calendar, which dates to 622 A.D., uses 12 months that begin with the approximate new moon without any intercalation to keep them square with the seasons. And, the Gregorian, although it performed a great job of unification, still doesn't satisfy everyone that uses it. Periodically some one comes forth with what they consider a better way of marking time.



Every year about this time we hear the same story: Christmas is getting too commercial. Last year, in fact, some grown-up rebelled and said because Christmas was getting "too commercial" they intended to tell their children that there was no Santa Claus.

Like little Virginia O'Hanlon, who wrote the famous "Is there a Santa" letter to the editor of the New York Sun, children are being badly disillusioned. But, we think so, let's work to see that the "true spirit" of the season abounds about us and not attempt to take away from children the joy of one of the greatest moments in their young lives—the time when Santa visits.

Christmas is commercial in some aspects. Thousands of people earn a livelihood working the year around in toy shops or factories which produce Christmas specialties. This, in itself, does not make Christmas "too commercial," for toy-makers have produced Christmas novelties for hundreds and hundreds of years. In these times of such a high ideal, no other resolutions will be required.

Let there be a Santa as long as there is a Virgin.



Let's face it—there are no easy New Year resolutions. With each new year, men make all sorts of promises to himself and to others. And, each year these same promises and resolutions fall by the wayside even before the NEW year's off the incoming year.

There is no easy resolution, for no resolution is worth the making unless it corrects a fault or cures a bad habit. Something must be sacrificed if a resolution is to be worthwhile.

The chief reason most resolutions are never kept is because they were impractical to begin with. This year, 1955, we might all resolve that we will make no foolish resolutions that we shall not be able to keep.

With the world situation being what it is, at the present time, we might all do well to settle on one single resolution—the will to work together for the achievement of a world peace. If we do this, and each live up to our individual responsibilities in regard to the achievement of such a high ideal, no other resolutions will be required.

In 1921 the infant mortality rate in Canada was 102 per 1000 live births. By 1951 it was only 38.

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# Merry Christmas



The season's  
here with joy and  
cheer...to  
last throughout the  
coming year!  
Best wishes to all!

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Greetings  
and best  
wishes to  
All



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FOR  
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## News Roundup From Edmonton

By Ken Mason

EDMONTON—The problem of surplus grain held the spotlight in Edmonton last week at two important meetings—the annual convention of the Farmers' Union of Alberta and the annual fall caucus of Social Credit members of the legislature.

Recommendations and suggestions came thick and fast, along with criticisms, but no one produced a solution to the problem, and about the only point of general agreement was that the problem does exist.

However, attention was focused on a statement by Trade Minister C. D. Howe, who hinted at the FUA convention that the federal government may introduce legislation at the next session of parliament, aimed at helping farmers meet storage and carrying costs on grain they are unable to sell.

His statement came during a heated question period which lasted for 90 minutes. He didn't elaborate in any way, but under questioning about storage and carrying costs he said: "They are receiving consideration and something may be done at the next session of parliament."

Just what may be done is anybody's guess, but amid the criticism of present federal policy there were plenty of suggestions. The Social Credit caucus issued a statement urging Ottawa to make it possible for the Canadian Wheat Board to make cash advances to farmers against grain stored on the farms.

One way of doing this, the Social Crediters said, would be to establish standards for "approved storage" facilities on farms. Any farmer who builds approved storage bins would be eligible for Wheat Board advances on his grain, according to the SC plan.

At the same time, the caucus statement denounced the present federal program of guaranteeing bank loans to farmers at five per cent interest on farm-stored grain. It described the scheme as "entirely inadequate."

As a long-range program toward eventual solution, the caucus recommended a "vigorous sales campaign," designed to sell surplus good supplies, even by barter deals or by accepting currency from non-dollar countries if necessary. This caucus statement followed closely policy laid down by the Social Credit League at its recent convention, and by Hon. L. C. Halmrast, minister of agriculture.

The FUA also put forth its idea of a solution to the problem with a 10-point emergency grain marketing program. Among other things, it called for a minimum price of \$2.50 per bushel on domestic wheat for human consumption, and for the government to assume the cost of all storage, by the wheat board.

It also followed the Social Credit line of thought in asking that cash advances on farm-stored grain be paid after inspection as to quantities, grade and condition of storage facilities, and that trade with all countries be increased by barter, acceptance of foreign currency or even by the government giving grain away free to needy nations.

One important part of the FUA's suggested program asked that farmers be protected from seizure and eviction during the present emergency.

A number of other interesting points emerged from the Social Credit caucus, which was called to discuss legislation the government proposes to introduce during the forthcoming session of the legislature.

It is known that the members spent some time discussing dividend payments to individual citizens, as recommended in a Social Credit League resolution in lieu of increasing grants to municipalities. However, the official word from the caucus is that the discussion was "general" and that no decision was reached.

The only official word from the government on dividends was uttered by Hon. E. W. Hinman, provincial treasurer, who said there won't be any dividends so long as municipalities continue to demand increased grants. Premier Manning was

## WITH THE District Agriculturist

By J. S. Duncan

### Farm Accounts

Among the many jobs which have to be done on the farm is the one of keeping accounts or records of some kind. It is said that many farmers pay more income tax than they need to just because their farm accounts are not properly kept. It is also true that many farmers do not know which of their farm enterprises are making a profit and which are costing them money because all they have a record of is the total income and total expenses of the farm.

A new year is starting in a couple of weeks and that is a good time to start keeping a good set of accounts. This doesn't mean a complicated double entry system or anything confusing like that. It does mean spending fifteen or twenty minutes a week or in hour a month making sure that all entries are made and in the correct place. The small amount of work involved is repaid well when it comes to making out income tax returns alone, and finding out which of the farm enterprises pay best can mean making a bigger profit out of the farm.

### Dehorning Cattle

Most calves are dehorned early, using caustic, electric dehorner, or other methods but there is often one or two missed. These few with horns can be a nuisance at the feed bunk and water troughs by bossing the others. They can also cause injury to other animals at times, and they are going to cost money when they are sold. The sooner these horns are taken off, the better it will be. There is a set of dehorner at my office which can be borrowed by anyone wanting to dehorn cattle and hasn't dehorner available.

### Trees and Tree Planting

There are still a few trees available through the Department of Agriculture for those who have land summer-fallowed but didn't get around to putting in their application earlier. Any one interested should get their application in soon as the number is limited.

At a recent Agricultural Service Board meeting the matter of a Tree Planter was discussed and it was decided that if enough farmers were interested that the Service Board would recommend that the Municipality should buy a planter for the use of farmers in the Municipality. These machines work very well and take most of the work out of planting trees. Any farmer who would be interested in making use of a Tree Planter some time in the future are requested to drop in or write to either my office or the municipal office so that we can find out how much interest there is in such a machine.

## EDMONTON CREAM PRICES

Edmonton creameries are paying for churning cream, with pool one cent less in each case, delivered at plant, special grade, butterfat, per pound 61; first grade 59; second 47; offgrade 42; delivery charges paid by producer.

non-committal, saying only that: "We've been discussing dividends for 20 years, so why stop now?"

There also was discussion of starting the session of the legislature earlier than usual next year. Usually, the session opens in mid-February, but observers think it will start closer to the first of the month. The main reason is that with a larger opposition in the house, the Throne Speech debate will last longer.

Caucus also discussed the Election Act, the official word is that no decision was reached, but the betting in political circles is that major changes are in store. If the changes are adopted, Alberta likely will abandon the complicated proportional representation system in favor of something less confusing to the voters. Most Social Credit MLA's seem to think a change is in order.

## DOUBLE -CHRISTMAS

By Lillace M. Mitchell

EVERYONE in the club thought it an excellent and unique idea: double Christmas! Wonderful! Two connecting rooms which would accommodate any number of members and guests—one room a real modern Christmas tree, the other an old-fashioned tree.

"All right, then," laughed the president when the dinner had died down. "It's voted, definitely. Now, for the two committees to handle the two trees. I'd like volunteers. I know how busy every one is at this time of year and if I may have volunteers, I shan't be imposing on anyone."

Unfortunately, all those who volunteered wanted to trim the modern tree. No one offered to take the old fashioned tree in the old-fashioned room. Linda Marbury was almost as astonished as anyone when she said she would be responsible for it.

Outside in the clear, cool night she wondered why she had offered. She was a stranger in this community and knew so young men who would put up the thirty-foot tree for her. A teacher of young man English in a small high school does not meet many young men.

At last she decided to let the putting-up of the tree wait and get the ornaments ready: mostly homemade, the Christmas committee had told her; something like pioneer life, the tree must be. So she went into a grocery store and asked for popcorn. It was the same answer in five stores: un-



lucky. "Popcorn!" his voice and blue eyes were both incredulous. "First time I ever saw a young lady running around in the dark for popcorn."

ly they had an excess of popcorn but now they were entirely out. Linda Lou was getting panicked by half past eight that

At nearly nine o'clock she saw a man in a small grocery store window reach up to pull out the light. "Oh, wait, wait, please," she said breathlessly as she pushed open the big door.

"Well, you must be really hungry!" laughed the tall, dark young man teasingly. "What'll it be?"

"Popcorn!" she said. "Popcorn!" his voice and blue eyes were both incredulous. "First time I ever saw a young lady running around in the dark for popcorn!"

So Linda told him all about the old-fashioned tree and how she had been unable to buy any popcorn which must be popped and strung and ready for the tree.

"They gave you little enough time," he grumbled as he went back to the shelf. "However, here of getting up a thing like that in one day! I'd best help you, I think. I'll pop tomorrow morning while you are in your school."

"But your job here?"

"Oh, this isn't any job. I'm a newspaper photographer. Just came down to visit my aunt and uncle and helped out in the store while they went for a visit with a sick friend. Seems rather strange, doesn't it? I got time of which was unusual. Came down here although I could have gone for the holidays to any one of a dozen places. You offered to trim a tree. I have the popcorn—" he hesitated.

Linda Lou added in her breathless fashion. "Why—it's like a story, almost. Isn't it?"

"It certainly is," he agreed, smoothing his black hair back as he stared down at her. "Now I never wrote a story in my life but I have noticed that in the stories, it all ends happily."

"It sounds wonderful," she murmured.

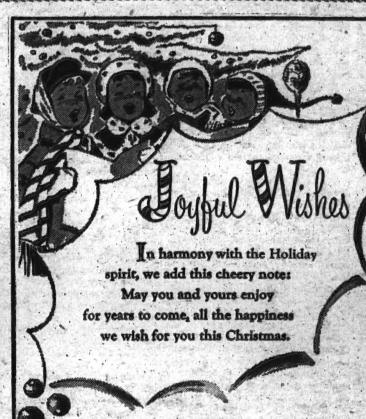
"Yes, the whole thing sounds wonderful to me, too. With maybe a bit of mistletoe on a long, high branch."

Linda Lou only nodded. It seemed a part of a huge picture, she thought. A pattern marked MERRY CHRISTMAS.

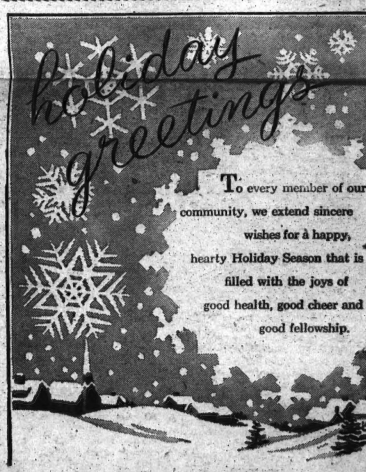
Five times as many Canadians live in towns and cities as live on the farms.



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WESTBOUND for Edmonton—Bus leaves Irma—8:49 a.m.—Daily except Sun. 8:19 p.m.—Sunday only.

Sunburst MOTOR COACHES

## Humboldt has fully automatic telephone system in operation

REGINA. — A 30-second procedure December 6, put a new \$260,000 telephone system into operation at Humboldt, Sask. A main cable was cut and some 600 insulating "picks" were put in to change Humboldt's system from manual operation to a fully automatic dial system.

The 30-second mark was the culmination of over two years of planning and actual construction and installation work by contractors, and by staff of Saskatchewan Government Telephones to give Humboldt one of the most modern telephone exchange buildings and equipment in the province.

In the two years, a handsome Saskatchewan brick, tile and concrete building was constructed across the street from the old exchange building by the B. & R. Construction Company Ltd. of Prince Albert, and fully automatic dial equipment and new long distance switching mechanism were installed by the British General Electric Company, with the finishing touches and final testing work now completed.

In addition to the new exchange building and equipment, outside telephone lines have been rebuilt where necessary in Humboldt and on the R. companies' circuits, with new cradle dial telephones supplied for each subscriber.

W. A. Sheardown of Saskatoon, division commercial superintendent, said "Saskatchewan Government Telephones officials are confident that this conversion to dial will provide more and even better telephone service for the Humboldt exchange area, and that it fits into the system's long range plans."

He said that the new five-digit telephone numbers will fit into the continent's operator distance dialing plan, making it possible in the future for an operator in distant Canadian and American locations to dial Humboldt numbers directly.

Although the new equipment is simply a mass of wires and "gadgets" to the layman, staff members were able to explain in simple language just what happens when a telephone call is dialed.

No public ceremony took place when the cut-over was made because there was no time for formalities. The goal was to make the switch from the old to the new system with no interruption in the service.

## Belting Bianda impresses fans

The aggressive and belting style of play of Jack Bianda, youthful defenseman of the Toronto Maple Leafs, has made quite a hit with Toronto fans. The 22-year-old, 170-pound six-footer was called up by the Leafs this season to take the place of the injured Tim Horton. He has played so well to date that he may have won himself a permanent berth with the team.

Bianda entered the N.H.L. much the same way as did Bucko McDonald and Flash Hollett. They all came into hockey as a result of lacrosse and when they did they could hardly skate. Bianda went to Brampton, Ont., five years ago to play lacrosse. After the lacrosse season finished he was asked to try out with the Junior "B" team there. He could hardly stand up on skates when he started, but he persevered and after a season with Brampton moved up to Toronto Marlboros Junior "A" team. Bianda was a star with the Victoria Shamrocks, 1935 Mann Cup winners, emblematic of the Canadian lacrosse championship.

## THE KIWI

The kiwi, New Zealand's bewhiskered, burrowing-digging, tail-less and almost wingless bird, is waging a losing battle for survival against the depredations of stoats, ferrets, rats, house cats and bush fires.



**EXPORT**  
CANADA'S FINEST  
CIGARETTES

## Monkeyshines

A New Orleans businessman, long at odds with a competitor, turned up at the police station with this complaint:

"It's the limit. You know the kind of things he's been doing all along. Well, it's gone too far now. He's gone and bought a monkey. He shaved the monkey's head to make it look like mine. And now he's dressing that monkey to make him look like me!"

The police decided there was nothing they could do about such monkeyshines.

## Santa Claus will make Far East trip

OTTAWA. — Santa Claus went winging his way to the Far East in late November well laden with Christmas cheer for Canadian Armed forces personnel serving in Indo China.

A Royal Canadian Air Force aircraft took off from Montreal for Saigon November 25, loaded with parcel mail and Christmas fare for officers and men of the military component of the Canadian delegation to the International Supervisory Commission. Each soldier's next-of-kin had been invited to send up to one 10-pound parcel.

The aircraft will return from Indo China on December 15 carrying parcels and mail back to Canada.

With refrigeration facilities practically non-existent, the provision of a proper Christmas menu for troops in Indo China has created quite a problem for Army catering authorities. This year's solution to the problem is pre-cooked canned turkeys and chickens which will keep fresh for an indefinite period without refrigeration.

In addition to food, the menu for Christmas will include cranberry sauce, tinned ham, plum pudding, fruit cocktail, coffee, nuts and candy.

Packs of various sizes have been prepared so that each man will be assured of a complete Christmas dinner with all the trimmings even if serving in an isolated location. The aircraft also carried entertainment films and sports equipment supplied by Army welfare; current magazines and periodicals from the Canadian Legion; individual citty hags donated by the Navy League of Canada; and a gift shipment of Canadian cigarettes from the Province of Ontario.

## The lean minority

That minority which has no need to reduce would often like to add a few pounds and to them calories are not a bugbear. To gain those desired extra pounds it is a good idea to work out a balanced diet from Canada's Food Rules for the necessary amount of food and then add some of the foods the overweight are told to avoid. Creamy soups, rich desserts, ice cream and between-meal snacks, providing they don't interfere with regular meals, should add a few ounces. Plenty of milk, which won't actually add weight but will provide basic nutrients, should be taken in larger quantities than usually recommended. Fruits such as bananas and apples, too, should be on the menu. If very much underweight, a doctor should be consulted to discover any underlying cause for the condition.

## ROLLING LAUNDRY TABLE

A rolling table in the laundry is often more convenient than a built-in counter, because it can be right where you need it—beside the washer for sorting the laundry, ready in any spot for sprinkling, and beside the ironing board to hold clothes before ironing and flat pieces after ironing.

## DRIVE WITH CARE!

## THE TILLERS



## The Pattern Shop

### 42" Cut-out

### Striking lawn or roof decoration Santa, reindeer

This striking lawn or roof decoration will add to the holiday spirit of the whole neighborhood. The pieces are cut out of temper hard board. It is an ideal job for the jig saw, or band saw. The deer are thirty-six inches long at the ground level and the same height to the tip of the horns. The directions on the pattern are in step-by-step detail from cutting out the figures to the final finish with a coat of good varnish to withstand the weather for many holidays. The price of the pattern is 50c. Add 2c for first-class mail, or 5c for air mail. Be sure to ask for pattern 360 and include name and address.



42" CUT-OUT SANTA WITH REINDEER

These angelic figures made of stiff paper and painted in bright colors will be found most useful at Christmas time. The pattern gives tracing diagrams for a variety of sizes and styles. Each figure is 6 inches high holding a song book. There are several sizes for tree decorations. And for hand-painted greeting cards that just fit an ordinary envelope. Each step is illustrated on the pattern from tracing the outline of the figures to the fascinating part of using ordinary water colors to bring out the unusual realism of these figures. This pattern is 35c and may be ordered separately at 50c or it will be included in the Christmas Decorations Packet of five standard size patterns for only \$1.50 postpaid.



MAKE CHRISTMAS PATTERNS 320

## 'Stone Age' man attends congress

The scholarly calm of the Pan-African Congress on Pre-historic Africa, held at Livingstone, Northern Rhodesia, was broken one evening by the sudden appearance of a Stone Age man. He quickly explained that the purpose of his visit was merely to demonstrate the manufacture of stone tools and weapons.

Squatting on a boulder, he took a big piece of flint and swift, deft blows with a pebble, rapidly shaped it into an axe-head. Speed was essential, for in primitive times there was little leisure for making tools; the search for food took up most of one's day, said the Stone Age man, impersonated, it should be said, by Dr. L. S. B. Leakey, the noted Kenya anthropologist and curator of the Nairobi Museum.

Next, with the jawbone of an antelope, Dr. Leakey showed how, by tapping the edges of a shaped stone with the rounded side of the bone, stone could be chipped to a fine cutting edge.

Hitting a stone at an angle on a stone "anvil" was another way of giving an edge to a flint. There were other more skillful methods of doing this, such as applying pressure on the edges of stones, thus breaking off fine, sharp flakes useful for knives, scrapers, or spear-heads.

It was all a matter of know-how and practice, said Dr. Leakey. Just how much was amply proved when others tried their hand.

## Fashions

### Jumper-dress!



by Anne Adams

It's a jumper for now—a sundress for summer! For schooltime, make one in cotton plaid, another in solid colors. She'll love the blouse too, with short or three-quarter sleeves. She's sure to rate an "A" in fashion, wearing this smart two-piece!

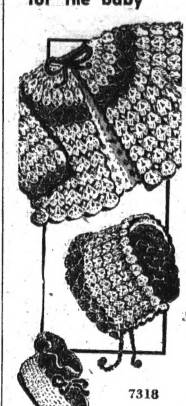
Pattern 4808: Girls' Sizes 6, 8, 10, 12, 14. Size 10 jumper, 2 1/2 yards 39-inch; blouse, 1 1/2 yards. This pattern easy to use, simple to sew, is tested for fit. Has complete illustrated instructions.

Send thirty-five cents (35c) in coins (stamps cannot be accepted) for this pattern. Write plainly: Size, Name, Address and Style Number and send orders to:

Department P.P.L.,  
Household Arts Department,  
60 Front Street W., Toronto

### Baby Set

### Crochet booties bonnet, jacket for the baby



by Alice Brooks

QUICK CROCHET! You'll have baby's new booties, bonnet, jacket and mitts in jiffy! They're made in open and closed shell-stitches in 3-ply baby yarn. Use-white with pastel pink, blue, or yellow.

Pattern 7318: Crochet directions for infant's bonnet, booties, jacket.

To obtain this pattern send twenty-five cents in coins (stamps cannot be accepted) to:

Department P.P.L.,  
Household Arts Department,  
60 Front Street W., Toronto

Order our ALICE BROOKS Needlecraft Catalogue. Enjoy pages and pages of exciting new designs—knitting, crochet, embroidery, iron-ons, toys and novelties! Send 25 cents for your copy of this wonderful book now. You'll want to order every design in it!

## Strictly Fresh

Air coolers installed in a model village at Austin, Tex., lengthen nights in terms of hours slept, a report says. And tall tales about Texas only make the night SEEM longer to us, when Lone Star fans come a-visitng.

Bloomington, Ill., foremen put out a tree fire and logged it as:



"Squirrel smoking in bed." Same one that wrote in the log book?

If you're getting up in years, it's prudent to remember that ang's shoeing can be a grave undertaking.

District of Columbia school officials found that newly printed report cards listed "A" as "excellent," and "U" as "improvements is needed." They sure is, in some teacher-proofreader's technique.

Army recently announced it was accepting a limited number of young men for overseas assignment. Outfit would be in Europe in time to spend April in Paris, it said. Fellow across the desk says it reminds him of his Navy outfit which called for shorthand volunteers. They were short handed in the galley.

There are 21 whooping cranes left in the world.

## Last run for ghost train

The ghost train of the Ontario Northland Railway has made its last run.

After hearing eerie tales of a silent train, gliding along the bush tracks at dead of night, and darting shafts of light through the trees, game warden Orel Landriault and railway constable Bob Friend decided to hunt it down.

Recently they found it—a home-made railway speeder with rubber tires, powered by a converted gas washing-machine motor.

It was lying hidden in the bush half a mile from a hunters' camp at Osborne. A special snuffer drowned the noise of the motor so that the speeder could move in silence along the tracks.

Five hunters have been charged with carrying loaded rifles in Nipissing Game Reserve. They may also be charged with trespassing on railway property. Four deer and five rifles were found nearby.

Osborne can only be reached by rail. The game warden believes the ghost train was brought to the camp in a packing case and assembled on the spot.

It carries two men and can easily be lifted on and off the rails. After the officers found the rifles, the hunters took them to the spot where the machine was hidden.

## U.S. EXPORTS TO RUSSIA UP

United States exports to Russia and satellite nations totaled \$2,000,000 in the second quarter of this year, according to the Commerce Department. This compares with \$1,465,000 in exports for the first quarter.

—By Les Carroll

## Oats pool payments announced

OTTAWA.—The Right Hon. C. D. Howe, minister of Trade and Commerce, has announced that the Canadian Wheat Board had closed the 1954-55 oat pool as at the close of business on November 18, 1955.

The surplus for distribution to Western producers delivering oats to the Pool between August 1, 1954 and July 31, 1955, amounted to \$3,779,605.60. The average final payment on the 60,581,184 bushels of oats delivered to the Pool by producers will be 6.532c per bushel. The final payment on No. 3 Canada Western will be 6.172c per bushel. The final payment on Extra No. 1 Feed Oats will be 6.296c per bushel. The final payment on No. 1, 2 and 3 Feed Oats will be 4.307c, 6.276c and 9.565c per bushel respectively.

This is the second distribution of surplus funds from the 1954-55 oat pool. Last April an adjustment payment of 7c per bushel was made on oats delivered to the 1954-55 oat pool between August 1, 1954 and March 21, 1955, when the initial payments for all grades of oats were increased by 7c per bushel effective for the balance of the crop year.

In the case of the 1953-54 oat pool, adjustment or interim payments were not possible and the Pool was closed on an average final payment of 6.276c per bushel. With the final payments announced, prices realized by producers on oats delivered to the 1954-55 pool will average about 6c per bushel higher than the prices realized from the preceding pool.

Mr. Howe stated that the board will commence issuing the final oats payments to producers just as soon as the final barley payment is completed. The board is presently engaged in issuing cheques to producers covering the final payment on the 1954-55 barley pool which amounted to \$6,536,611.93.

## The object of irrigation

The object of irrigation is to replenish the water in the soil so that plants will have an adequate supply of moisture. In order for the plant to grow under the most favorable conditions, there must be a balance between air and water in the pores of the soil. The upper limit of this balance is called field capacity or when the soil is holding the maximum amount of water after downward movement, due to gravity, has ceased. The lower limit is the wilting point which indicates the moisture content of the soil when the plant will die.

When the soil moisture is higher than field capacity, the soil is saturated. If the soil remains saturated for too long a period, it becomes waterlogged and plants suffer from lack of air. When the soil moisture falls below the wilting point, the plant of course dies. The amount of water that the plant can use is that volume between field capacity and wilting point and this quantity is called the available moisture — Canada Department of Agriculture.

Samuel Gridley Howe, who devoted almost half a century to the education of the blind, invented the first method of teaching by means of raised symbols.



**NO SWEAR WORDS** — W. A. Craker, 92, of Omena, Mich., hopes to transcribe the unwritten Chippewa Indian language before he dies. Craker played with Indians as a child. He says the tribe never swear words in the Chippewa tribal tongue before advent of the white man to what is now upper Michigan.





**Central Garage**



**Andy and Bill's Garage**

**For WINTER TRAVEL**  
That's "Travel Living"  
go **CANADIAN NATIONAL**



East or West, whatever your holiday destination this winter, make travel a pleasurable experience. Take your choice of TWO great name trains... the **Super Continental** or the **Continental**... serving Canada between Montreal and Vancouver, with convenient connections to California, the Maritimes, and the Eastern United States.

There's accommodation to suit every travel budget, in coach, tourist and standard sleepers. Your C.N.R. Agent will always be glad to help you with your travel plans.

**CANADIAN NATIONAL**



**Irma Times Staff  
& Correspondents**

## Quick Xmas Quiz

1. Why are candies used during the Christmas season?
2. Who gets credit for origin of the custom of hanging Christmas stockings?
3. Is Kris Kringle and Santa Claus the same?
4. A familiar plant to us—what is the golden bough?
5. Who was Joel Poinsett?
6. Who sent the first Christmas cards?
7. Which state has a town named Santa Claus?
8. Legend says the crown of Thomas was plaited from which Christmas plant?
9. What does the name Kris Kringle mean?
10. Who wrote "A Visit From Saint Nicholas"?

### ANSWERS

1. As symbols of the Day of Reformation, candies were used during the Christmas season. 2. Kris Kringle is credited with the custom of hanging stockings. 3. No, Kris Kringle is the name of the person who brought the Christmas tree to America. 4. The holly. 5. The American statesman who brought the Christmas tree to America. 6. Santa Claus. 7. Pennsylvania. 8. The holly. 9. The holly. 10. Clement Moore.

**Season Greenery**  
**WHP Mr. Home**  
**Eko Xmas Spirit**

Did you ever notice that the prettiest homes around the community at Christmas are the ones decorated liberally with the green things of the season? Their festive appearance is obtained easily with proper display of such things as evergreens, berries, seed pods, and pine cones.

These simple decorations are readily available to most everyone at no cost and to use an old expression: "The woods are full of them."

A trip into the country to gather them can also be turned into a pleasant excursion for the whole family and a brief rest period from the "getting ready" for Christmas company parties, and holiday affairs.

One word of caution, however! Don't kill trees or bushes. Prune carefully when selecting your evergreens.

The Christmas tree—whether large or small—should be the center of the decorations. Place the tree in front of a window, so that its bright, cheerful glow can be seen from within and without. Decorate the tree with balls of red, silver, blue and green, strands of popcorn, and various decorations that are saved from year to year.

Be sure to hang a rope of evergreen, a spray or wreath on your front door—these signify to many who pass your home that you are celebrating this joyous season.

A rope of evergreen requires approximately four to five yards of rope. The place you plan to use it will determine the exact length. Next, you'll need several short lengths of wire, short sprays of evergreen, balls, bows, red berries or bells. Place a bunch of evergreen against the rope and fasten.

In place with the wire; repeat until the rope has been completely covered. The rope may be draped over the door frame, mantel, or along the stair rail. Pick out other spots where additional decorations, like berries, balls or bells will add to the effectiveness of over-all appearance.



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## Northern Nuggets

On Friday, December 9, the Albert School was the scene of a farewell party for Mr. and Mrs. Erling Larson and family who, we regret to say, are leaving our district. After a very pleasant social evening, Mr. W. D. Ramsey made the presentation of a lovely floor lamp. While so doing he voiced the feelings of all present when he spoke of the fine spirit of neighborliness shown by Erling at all times by his willingness to help one and all in any emergency and of Goldie's unfailing hospitality. They both replied and after expressing their thanks, assured us of a warm welcome to their new home in Irma. Lunch was served and the evening closed with a hearty rendition of "For They Are Jolly Good Fellows."

Miss Hazel Herder of Vancouver arrived on Saturday to spend the Christmas season with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. Herder.

## Warn of Gas Toll

Each winter season in Alberta, the dreaded carbon monoxide gas takes its toll. This is known as the "Creeping Killer." It gives no warning of its presence, being colorless and odorless.

As the weather grows colder, extra precautions need to be taken against these poisonous gas fumes. Many fatalities have been due to careless ventilation practices in garages.

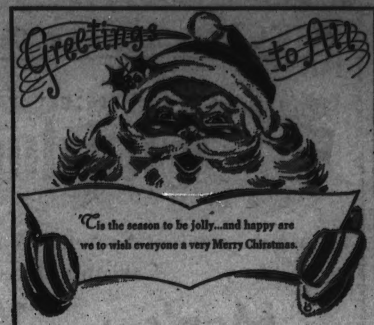
The exhaust from automobile engines always contain carbon monoxide, harmless in the open but deadly in closed places.

Careless habits often expose car drivers and garage workers to excessive concentrations of this gas. The precautions which should be taken are simple and should be rigorously followed if accidents and fatalities are to be avoided.

For example, a car engine should never be run in a garage unless the doors are open.

Many fatalities have been caused by drivers becoming drowsy at the wheel. Good ventilation is necessary when driving, and all windows should never be closed.

The odor of any escaping gas from burning fuel should always put an individual on the alert against carbon monoxide. Early symptoms are shortness of breath, tight feeling across the forehead and dizziness. Collapse and suffocation will result unless the victim is removed to the fresh air.—Voice of Motorist.



**Pendleton's Garage**

**Star-Bright Christmas Wishes**



**Gratton View Hotel**

F. DREWICKI, Prop.

Let's ALL enjoy THIS Christmas!

**If you DRIVE - don't DRINK**

**If you DRINK - don't DRIVE**

It's smart to say "NO THANKS" For driving!



**ALBERTA SAFETY COUNCIL**



From the gas well to your home—"all down the line"—the warmest of

**Holiday Greetings**

from Your **GAS** Company



**NORTHWESTERN UTILITIES, LIMITED**

**NOTICE - Store Closes 6 p.m. Christmas Eve Dec. 24**

A good stock of Branded Wearables for your Christmas Giving

**Men's**

- SHIRTS • GLOVES
- SOX • TIES
- SCARFS • JACKETS
- DRESS ACCESSORIES
- SWEATERS • PYJAMAS
- HANDKERCHIEFS

**Boys'**

- BELTS • SOCKS
- TIES • KERCHIEFS
- SHIRTS • SWEATERS

**Tots'**

- NYLON DRESSES
- SWEATERS • SLEEPERS
- PYJAMAS, Etc.

**Women's**

- LINGERIE • GLOVES
- HOUSEHOLD ITEMS
- LINEN PIECES • NYLONS
- WOLESEY SWEATERS
- KERCHIEFS • SCARFS
- BED TROWS
- BED SPREADS, Etc.

*It's later than you think!*

**Girls'**

- LINGERIE • HOSE
- MITTENS • GLOVES
- SWEATERS • KERCHIEFS

**Values for Holiday feasting!**

- FANCY McINTOSH APPLES  
Junior Box ..... **2.49**
- JAPANESE ORANGES  
Priced at ..... **1.89**
- GANONG'S FANCY  
CHRISTMAS CANDY
- CHOCOLATES from Ganong's,  
Neilson's, Moir's, Rowntree

**INSTANT COFFEE**

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL—  
Small jars ..... **65c** Large jars ..... **1.89**  
Priced ..... **65c** Priced ..... **1.89**

**COFFEE**

A special high quality, all purpose grand  
Coffee on Sale till Christmas. 1 lb. sealed  
packets. 4 lb. limit to an order. **1.00**  
2 lb. .... **1.95** 4 lb. .... **1.00**

- FANCY STUFFED  
MANZANILLA OLIVES  
12 oz. .... **79c**
- NEOPOLITAN JUMBO  
OLIVES  
Plain .... **69c** Asstd. .... **89c**  
Stuffed ..... **95c**

Wishing Everyone a  
**Merry Christmas**  
and a  
**Happy New Year**

OPEN  
ALL DAY  
WED.,  
DEC. 21st

**J. C.  
McFARLAND  
Co.**

STORE  
CLOSES  
6 p.m. SAT.,  
DEC. 24th

For  
GRAIN or COAL Hauling  
Phone 24  
A. D. GLASGOW  
Irma ..... Alberta

If you have anything to sell  
or trade, try a Times Want Ad.  
It will bring results.



CHRISTMAS  
GREETINGS and  
GOOD WISHES with a  
NEW YEAR MUCH TO  
YOUR LIKING  
To All I Might Meet and  
Greet If I Were At Home.  
—Mrs. M. Chase.

**Local News**

According to the Alberta Gazette, Mr. Wm. Massey has been appointed to serve as our new Justice of the Peace.

Mr. Martin Enger was among those who had rather a harrowing experience during the blizzard. He just got back to his home at Irma on Wednesday, after spending Monday and Tuesday marooned alone at an oil well out from Wainwright where he is employed. All he had for food was a lunch he had taken with him. He was rescued by tractor.

Mr. John Nolan was well enough to leave hospital last week-end.

We are happy to learn that Miss Kate Younker who has been hospitalized so long following a car accident in September, is now convalescing nicely and is home for Christmas.

Joseph Rohrer came down from Edmonton to spend last week-end with his parents here.

Mrs. V. Hutchinson is visiting in Edmonton this week and also of Devon with Mrs. L. Hager.

Mrs. J. Pond has returned home after spending 2 weeks in the Royal Alex hospital in Edmonton.

Mrs. H. McKay is a patient in the University hospital. We would like to welcome Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Daniel and family who have arrived from Vilna. Mr. Daniel is our new CNR agent.

The McIntyre Wells oil drills have left our district. When moving some of their equipment went foul of the telephone lines north of town, thus adding to the general confusion caused by the blizzard.

Christmas lights are blossoming out again in spite of blizzard conditions. Each evening sees a new lighted window or tree added to the growing illumination. No one is dreaming of a "white Christmas." These whirling clouds of snow are a stern reality—also there's too much dust mixed with it for a true whiteness. Where the dust came from no one knows.

**KIEFER'S SHOWS at IRMA**

Friday, Dec. 16 8:40 p.m.  
"YOUNG MAN WITH IDEAS"

Glen Ford, Ruth Roman  
Family Picture

Friday, Dec. 23 Family  
"LUCY GALLANT"  
Jane Wyman, Charlton Heston  
Technicolor



FOR SALE OR RENT—The property on Lot 9 Block 8, Irma, north of Fire Hall. The building can be bought separately for sum of \$200.00, or will trade for anything of value. See J. F. Murray, Kinross, Alberta. 16-6-13

WILL TRADE Christmas trees for old butteries, fresh fish on hand. See Pete McArthur, Viking, Alta. 16p

FOR SALE — Christmas trees. See Mrs. Steve Fuesco. 16p

BRING YOUR repair work to the White Horse Service Station, on Main St. in Irma, where E. J. Helm, a certified mechanic, is now in charge of this shop. All repair work guaranteed.

CHRISTMAS SPECIALS—New 1955 9.9 cu. ft. IH refrigerator, 35 lb. freezer, rollout shelves, \$75.00 off. Used 6 cu. ft. Frigidaire Refrigerator for \$100. Miniature tractors, tractors and farm machinery for the kids. See P. E. Jones Co. 6-16

**Greetings . . .**

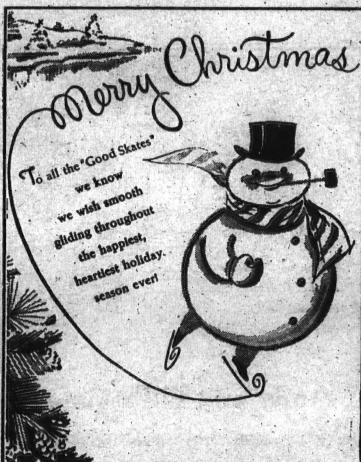
TO ALL OUR CUSTOMERS AND FRIENDS  
**A Merry Christmas and  
a Happy New Year!**

MAY YOUR EXPECTATIONS EXCEED  
YOUR DISSAPPOINTMENTS THROUGH-  
OUT THE WHOLE YEAR

— From Vic and Kieth —

**V. Hutchinson & Co. Ltd.**

IRMA — Phone 25 — ALBERTA  
— Your Massey-Harris Dealers —



**P. E. JONES CO. IRMA**



**Fred Jack Hardware**



**Post Office Staff**

Grade 4 of the Irma School is having a sale of plaques, popcorn balls and candy in Larry's Food Market on Saturday afternoon, December 17. Proceeds are for the Junior Red Cross and buying game boards for the classroom.

Diesels, so railwaymen say, are the most efficient form of railway motive power, yet developed. They out-perform all others by a convincing margin. Canada's southernmost Eskimo settlement is on Cape Hope Island in James Bay.